establishment of surveillance and checking of emission warranty systems for new vehicles be set up.

6. To put in place the new emissions norms, substantial investments need to be made to produce appropriate quality fuel and the vehicles. Preferential treatment to the oil and auto industry in matters relating to custom duty, excise duty, depreciation, soft-loans etc. need to be provided.

7. In addition to petrol and diesel, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) are permitted to be used as auto fuels. The Government has futher decided to blend ethanol with petrol. CNG, LPG and other alternative fuels need to be encouraged, giving the choice of fuel and vehicle technology to the customers. Any combination of fuel and vehicle technology, which meets the prescribed emission norms should be acceptable.

8. The fiscal regime applicable to the auto fuels should be directed towards achieving the economic pricing of various fuels, instead of prsently prevailing distored pricing. This would help in long term planning and supply of quality products.

(c) No. Sir.

Impact of global prices of domestic oil prices

1733. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM:
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reduced the prices of petrol and diesel taking advanage of fall in global oil prices while increasing the excise duties on these items to about three times the original;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of fall in global oil prices on the prices of kerosene and LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Effective midnight of 11th /12th January 2002, the excise duty on petrol was increased from 32% to 90% and that on diesel was increased from 16% to 20%. Effective the same date, the ex-storage point price (exclusive of duty, local levies etc.) of petrol was reduced from Rs. 18999.01/KL to Rs. 10820/ KL and that of diesel was reduced from Rs. 11934.60/Kl to Rs. 11040/KL.

Effective midnight of 28th February/1st March 2002, the excise duty on petrol has been revised from 90% to 32% plus Rs. 6/Litre Special Additional Duty of Excise. The excise duty on diesel has also been revised from 20% to 16%. Additional duty of excise of Re. 1 per litre already being levied on petrol and diesel continues.

(c) Kerosene for public distribution system and domestic LPG are subsidized products.

Production of oil from new wells

†1734. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production from the crude oil wells explored since March, 1998 has since been started;

(b) if so, the number of oil wells from which the production has been started during the above period; and

(c) the year-wise production of crude oil from these oil wells during 1998-1999, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) From March, 1998, crude oil has been produced from a total of 38 exploratory wells. Year-wise production during these last three years from the exploratory wells is as under:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.